

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EUR-12
IO-13 TRSE-00 /079 W
-----171559Z 067264 /47

R 141054Z JAN 77
FM AMCONSUL DURBAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2460
INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

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E.O.11652: NA
TAGS: PINT SF
SUBJECT: INKATHA ISSUES STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES AS POSSIBLE
BASIS FOR EXPLORING ALLIANCE WITH WHITES

1. SUMMARY: CHIEF BUTHELEZI'S INKATHA MOVEMENT HAS ISSUED
A NEW SET OF POLITICAL PRINCIPLES POSSIBLY DESIGNED TO SERVE
AS THE BASIS FOR DISCUSSING "ALLIANCE" WITH WHITE POLITICAL
GROUPS. THE STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES IS REGARDED BY INKATHA
AS A FOLLOW-UP TO THE DEC 4 JOHANNESBURG CONFERENCE ON THE
REMOVAL OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION. TO DATE THE WHITE SA PRESS
HAS PAID RELATIVELY LITTLE ATTENTION TO THE INKATHA INITIATIVE.
IN REACTION, THE BUTHELEZI-INFLUENCED ZULU NEWSPAPER, ILANGA,
HAS EDITORIALIZED THAT WHITES ARE UNDERESTIMATING THE
IMPORTANCE OF THE INKATHA MOVEMENT. END SUMMARY

2. FOLLOWING A CONFERENCE IN ULUNDI WEEK OF 3-7
JANUARY, CHIEF BUTHELEZI'S INKATHA ORGANIZATION ISSUED WHAT
IT TERMED A "MAJOR NEW CHARTER OR POLITICAL STATEMENT OF
BELIEF" CONSISTING OF SEVENTEEN PRINCIPLES. STATEMENT
EXPRESSES BELIEF IN THE RULE OF LAW, FOSTERING OF EQUAL
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OPPORTUNITIES, OPEN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND RESIDENTIAL
AREAS, AND THE GREATEST POSSIBLE REDISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH

COMMENSURATE WITH MAXIMIZING THE PRODUCTIVITY OF COMMERCE, TRADE
AND INDUSTRY WHETHER STATE CONTROLLED OR PRIVATELY OWNED.
SOME OF THE INKATHA PRINCIPLES ARE SIMILAR TO THOSE ADOPTED
BY MARAIS COMMITTEE AS BASIS FOR A NEW WHITE OPPOSITION. FINAL

PRINCIPLE STATES BELIEF THAT QTE MOBILIZATION OF CONSTITUENCY PROTEST AND A REFUSAL TO ACT WITHIN THE RESTRICTIVE CONFINES OF RACE EXCLUSIVITY HOLDS A PROMISE WE DARE NOT ABANDON. END QTE. (FULL TEXT OF INKATHA STATEMENT FORWARDED BY AIRGRAM.)

3. SA WHITE PRESS HAS PAID RELATIVELY LITTLE ATTENTION THUS FAR TO THE INKATHA STATEMENT EXCEPT TO NOTE THAT IT HAS BEEN SUBMITTED FOR COMMENT TO THE PROGRESSIVE REFORM PARTY AND OTHER UNNAMED "INTERESTED GROUPS" WITH THE TENTATIVE TITLE "PEOPLES MOVEMENT FOR RADICAL PEACEFUL CHANGE". NATAL MERCURY JAN 14 DESCRIBED THE INKATHA INITIATIVE AS A FOLLOW-ON TO THE PRP-ORGANIZED CONFERENCE (DEC 4 IN JOHANNESBURG) ON REMOVAL OF RACE DISCRIMINATION, AND TERMED IT A BASIS FOR DISCUSSIONS ABOUT "ALLIANCE" WITH THE PRP OR OTHER WHITE GROUPS. ACCORDING TO MERCURY, PRP FEDERAL EXECUTIVE WILL CONSIDER THE INKATHA PRINCIPLES ALONG WITH MARAIS COMMITTEE PROPOSALS DURING A JAN 15 MEETING IN CAPE TOWN.

4. THERE HAS BEEN A CLEAR INDICATION FROM INKATHA THAT IT REGARDS ITS STATEMENT AS HIGHLY IMPORTANT AND THAT WHITES ARE TENDING TO UNDERESTIMATE ITS SIGNIFICANCE. JAN 13 "ZULU VOICE" (ENGLISH SUPPLEMENT OF ZULU NEWSPAPER "ILANGA") EDITORIALIZED THAT THERE IS NO DIALOGUE BETWEEN BLACK LEADERSHIP AND AFRIKANERS WHO ARE "INCAPABLE AND UNWILLING TO DISCUSS ANY NEW ORDER WITH ANYBODY" AND THAT DIALOGUE BETWEEN WHITES OUTSIDE THE AFRIKANER TRIBE ALSO WILL COME TO NOUGHT BECAUSE OF "ALMOST TOTAL COMMUNICATIONS BREAKDOWN BETWEEN ALL THOSE OUTSIDE THE AFRIKANER CAMP" AND BLACKS. LATTER WAS DEMONSTRATED, ACCORDING TO "ZULU VOICE", WHEN INKATHA'S "VERY FAR-REACHING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DECISIONS" RECEIVED SCANT ATTENTION IN WHITE DAILY NEWSPAPERS AND WERE "IGNORED" BY THE SUNDAY PRESS. "ZULU VOICE" THEREFORE WAS PUBLISHING ENTIRE ENGLISH VERSION TO PERMIT WIDER PUBLIC APPRECIATION OF STATEMENT ABOUT WHICH IT SAID, "TIME WILL SHOW HOW REALLY IMPORTANT THE DOCUMENT IS".

5. COMMENT: BUTHELEZI AND INKATHA APPEAR TO REGARD THEIR STATEMENT AS AN IMPORTANT TACTICAL INITIATIVE FOR DEVELOPING THE BLACK-WHITE OR EVEN WHITE-WHITE DIALOGUE NOW LACKING. ILANGA AND ZULU VOICE, THOUGH OWNED BY SA ARGUS GROUP, ARE GENERALLY CONSIDERED AN OFFICIAL PLATFORM FOR EXPRESSION OF VIEWS OF BUTHELEZI OR HIS INKATHA CONSTITUENTS. ILANGA EDITOR IN JAN 14 TELCON MADE POINT OF STRESSING TO CONGEN "REAL IMPORTANCE" OF THE INKATHA POLITICAL STATEMENT WHICH, HE HOPED, WOULD BE BROUGHT TO ATTENTION OF USG. FARBER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, THE PRESS, PUBLIC ATTITUDES
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3599633
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INKATHA ISSUES STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES AS POSSIBLE BASIS FOR EXPLORING ALLIANCE WITH WHITES
TAGS: PINT, SF, (BUTHELEZI, GATSHA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/48f604da-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009